

American Nurses Association
8515 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3492
Tel (301) 628-5000
Fax (301) 628-5001
www.NursingWorld.org

NEWS RELEASE



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CONTACT:

Adam Sachs, 301-628-5034
adam.sachs@ana.org
Mary McNamara, 301-628-5198
mary.mcnamara@ana.org
www.nursingworld.org

THE AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION HONORS NURSING'S BEST AT 2010 HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Nursing Researcher and Educator Norma Lang Receives First Prestigious ANA President's Award

SILVER SPRING, MD – The American Nurses Association (ANA), the largest nursing organization in the U.S., is holding its 2010 Biennial House of Delegates meeting June 16-19 in Washington, D.C. More than 600 nurse leaders from across the nation are in attendance.

During its meeting yesterday, ANA President Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR, presented its newly established President's Award to Norma M. Lang, PhD, RN, FAAN, FRCN. The award honors an individual or group for significant contributions to the advancement of nursing and for positively influencing public perception of the value of nursing.

The ANA boards of directors voted to give the inaugural honor to Lang, whose research and advocacy have contributed to the establishment and expansion of nursing standards and performance measurement as a way to improve nursing services, patient outcomes, and the quality of care. Lang is also a pioneering researcher in the field of health quality improvement through the use of electronic health records.

"I've seen Norma Lang working on the cutting edge in the nursing profession for years. The health care strategies that command her focus and benefit from her leadership, such as development of nursing-sensitive indicators and health information technology, will continue to expand and prove to be vital for

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the future quality of health care and every nurse in this country,” said Patton. “She keeps on giving to nurses and the patients we serve through the profession and has never slowed down. I call her the ‘Energizer Bunny of Nursing.’”

Lang currently serves as the University of Wisconsin Regent distinguished professor and the Aurora distinguished professor of Healthcare Quality and Informatics at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee College of Nursing. She leads the Knowledge-based Nursing Initiative, a public-private partnership to accelerate and expand the use of knowledge and evidence in nursing practice through information technology systems. Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle recently appointed Lang to the state’s newly established Wisconsin Relay of Electronic Data (WIRED) for Health Board.

Lang has held a long list of distinguished roles in nursing education, research, and service to the profession. She has served on the ANA board of directors and as the president of the American Nurses Foundation. She participated on ANA panels that helped establish the first Social Policy Statement and the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators® (NDNQI®), the nation’s premier database of nursing performance measures. NDNQI now works with more than 1,600 participating hospitals.

Lang also is a senior fellow in the Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics and the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research at the University of Pennsylvania, the same institution where she serves as professor and dean emeritus. She is a senior research fellow with the Annenberg Center for Public Policy at the University of Pennsylvania, and she is a former dean at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Lang has performed public service through participation on numerous health care and nursing-related boards. She is a recent member of the board of the National Quality Forum (NQF) and currently is the vice president of the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS).

Lang received her BSN from Alverno College in Milwaukee and her MSN and PhD from Marquette University, and holds several honorary degrees.

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The ANA is the only full-service professional organization representing the interests of the nation's 3.1 million registered nurses through its constituent member nurses associations, its organizational affiliates, and its workforce advocacy affiliate, the Center for American Nurses. The ANA advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing practice, promoting the rights of nurses in the workplace, projecting a positive and realistic view of nursing, and by lobbying the Congress and regulatory agencies on health care issues affecting nurses and the public.